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House of Representatives

The House met at 8:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HOYER).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

April 17, 2008.

I hereby appoint the Honorable STENY H. HOYER to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Dr. Alan N. Keiran, Chief of Staff, Office of the Senate Chaplain, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, creator of heaven and Earth, as we open this legislative day, we pause to consider the grandeur of Your creative genius. We are struck by the vastness of space and the countless heavenly bodies that light the night sky. Likewise, we observe with awe and wonder Your magnificent handiwork in the advent of springtime, often being moved to worship You for the botanic beauty we are privileged to enjoy. To You alone, O God most high, belong all praise and glory.

We pray for Your grace to guide the Members and former Members of this body on this very special day, as they serve those who have elected them to public office and the Nation we all love.

We also pray for all those who are attending the Pontiff's mass this morning, that they would sense Your presence in life-changing ways. May Your spirit empower people of faith to seek You with all their hearts and minds.

We pause as well to pray for those in harm's way and their families. Be with those wearing the cloth of our Nation

in the long watches of the night in places far from home. Bring them solace in times of deep loneliness and hope for a joyous homecoming.

May we all know Your peace that passes understanding, Your hope that sustains us in times of trial, and Your love that fills the deepest recesses of our hearts.

We pray in the Name that is above every name. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from New York (Mr. McNULTY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. McNULTY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of Thursday April 10, 2008, the House will stand in recess subject to the call of the Chair to receive the former Members of Congress.

Accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 35 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

RECEPTION OF FORMER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

The Speaker pro tempore presided.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. On behalf of the House, I consider it a great

honor on behalf of Speaker PELOSI, Leader BOEHNER and myself to welcome not only former colleagues but very good friends. I am particularly pleased to recognize the former Speaker of the House, Bob Michel. I know that's technically not accurate. I tried to get him the votes to get that office, but another person intervened. But we are certainly pleased to recognize and welcome back the distinguished minority leader to the House, a good friend. I, of course, somewhat parochial, particularly want to recognize my good friend, Senator Joe Tydings. When I first ran for the Maryland State Senate, I had a little tiny brochure. On the front page of that brochure were two people—Senator Tydings, who had been elected in 1964 and myself in 1966—both former Presidents of the Young Democrats of Maryland, walking down the street. So to that extent, if you're really upset with my being here, Senator Tydings has some responsibility for that. You can talk to him.

Also, the first Young Democrats convention I attended, the President of the Young Democrats of Maryland was a gentleman named Goodloe Byron. Goodloe E. Byron. He served with me in the State Senate. He came to Congress before me, tragically passed away at an extraordinarily young age, and his wife, as all of you know, succeeded him. A friend of mine for 40 years—she was 7 at the time when we first met—Beverly Byron. It's particularly good to recognize you and to welcome all of you back to the House.

The Chair will now recognize the Honorable Dennis Hertel. It's a particular pleasure for me to recognize Dennis Hertel because, as some of you know, he came to the Congress the same year I came to the Congress. He left the Congress not at the request of the citizens of Michigan but at the request of the citizens who served in the State legislature. They divided his district up not in three ways but in four

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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